REMARKS

Independent claims 1 and 13 were rejected under 35 USC §102(e)) as being unpatentable over Bridges et al. (US patent 6,148,197). In response, these claims have been amended to clarify the Applicant's invention. In particular, the independent claims have been amended to clarify that the plurality of options are provided to the user as a function of price and that a selection of one of the plurality of options is received from the user. Support for the amendment may be found in the specification as a whole including page 13, second paragraph, and original claims 6 and 18.

Bridges et al. discloses a system for automatic selection of a wireless carrier for a roaming mobile station (ref. col. 4 lines 31 to 39). The network generates a list of preferred wireless carriers for different situations and downloads this to the mobile station. The mobile station determines if it is in the home network and otherwise determines if the received signal corresponds to the preferred wireless carrier. If so, the service is obtained from the current wireless carrier and otherwise the mobile station changes to the wireless carrier indicated as the preferred carrier in the downloaded list (ref. col. 12 lines 35 to 50). However, the entire processing is performed automatically by the mobile station without any interaction with the user.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that Bridges et al. fails to disclose that a plurality of options related to values of at least one communications parameter are provided to the user for selection therefrom by the user; and that selection of one of the plurality of options is received from the user.

It is respectfully submitted that the current invention and the system of Bridges et al. are directed at two different objects and achieve different results by different means. Specifically, Bridges et al. is specifically directed to automatic selection of a wireless carrier whereas the current invention is directed to providing the user with means for directly selecting a parameter of a service by (manual) selection.

It is accordingly submitted that the Examiner's objections have been traversed and that independent claims 1, 5 and 13 are novel and inventive

over the cited prior art. Applicants further submit that dependent claims 2-4, 7-12 and 14-17 and 19-24 are allowable by virtue of their dependency, directly or indirectly on claims 1, 5 and 13, respectively. Applicants respectfully request the reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Please charge any fees associated herewith, including extension of time fees, to 50-2117.

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